

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OCTOBER 3, 2003

CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

MARVIN SMILON, HERBERT HADAD,

MICHAEL KULSTAD

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

(212) 637-2600

U.S. JURY CONVICTS FORMER CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT OF COMPUTER HORIZONS OF INSIDER TRADING

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that JOHN J. CASSESE, the former Chairman and President of Computer Horizons

Corporation ("Computer Horizons") was convicted late yesterday in Manhattan federal court of insider trading in the stock of Data

Processing Resources ("DPRC") on the basis of material nonpublic information CASSESE obtained, by virtue of his position at

Computer Horizons, about an impending tender offer for DPRC, which yielded CASSESE illegal profits of approximately \$150,937.

The conviction followed a one-week jury trial before United States District Judge ROBERT W. SWEET.

According the Indictment and the evidence at trial, in April and May 1999, CASSESE began negotiating a potential acquisition of Computer Horizons - a publicly traded, Mountain Lakes, New Jersey, company engaged in the business of providing temporary computer staffing services - by Compuware, another

public company engaged in the same business.

According to the Indictment and the evidence at trial, in the midst of Compuware's discussions with Computer Horizons, Compuware also began negotiating a potential acquisition of DPRC, another public company engaged in the same line of business. On or about June 2, 1999, Compuware agreed to acquire by tender offer all of the issued and outstanding shares of DPRC at \$25 per share, a price substantially above the then-prevailing market price of DPRC.

According to the Indictment and the evidence at trial, on or about June 21, 1999, Compuware's Chief Executive Officer telephoned CASSESE and advised CASSESE that Compuware would not acquire Computer Horizons, but instead intended to acquire DPRC. The Indictment alleges and the evidence at trial showed that CASSESE knew that Compuware had not yet publicly announced its proposed acquisition of DPRC. Nevertheless, as alleged in the Indictment and proved at trial, the next day, June 22, 1999, at approximately 9:30 A.M., CASSESE purchased a total of 15,000 shares of DPRC at prices of approximately \$13.25 per share in brokerage accounts he maintained at two separate financial institutions.

According to the Indictment and the evidence at trial, on or about June 24, 1999, prior to the opening of trading on the NASDAQ stock market, Compuware and DPRC issued a press release publicly announcing that Compuware would acquire DPRC's common stock at approximately \$24 per share. When trading began, at

approximately 9:30 A.M., the price of DPRC's stock opened at approximately \$23.50 per share, approximately \$11.25 per share higher than the previous day's closing price. That same day, CASSESE sold his 15,000 DPRC shares, yielding illegal profits of approximately \$150,937.

CASSESE, 58, of Morristown, New Jersey, was convicted of one count of fraud in connection with a tender offer. CASSESE faces a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison, and a maximum fine of \$1 million or twice the gross gain or loss suffered by the victims of the scheme.

Mr. COMEY praised the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and thanked the United States Securities and Exchange Commission for its assistance in the investigation and trial.

Mr. COMEY is a member of the President's Corporate

Fraud task force. The Task Force is chaired by Acting Deputy

Attorney General ROBERT D. McCALLUM, Jr. and was created by

President GEORGE W. BUSH last year to combat white collar crime.

Assistant United States Attorneys STEVEN R. GLASER and DEIRDRE A. McEVOY are in charge of the prosecution.

03-232 ###